

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING OFFICER DEREK
DIETER

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Officer Derek Dieter who retired from the South Bend Police Department after 39 years of service. Officer Dieter served the SBPD in multiple roles, including uniform patrol, narcotics, and twenty years in S.W.A.T.—where he spent ten years as a team leader. Officer Dieter, in addition to his law enforcement duties, also serves his community as a Councilman and Vice President of the South Bend City Council. On February 24th, he will be honored by his fellow councilmembers with a resolution for his extensive service to the South Bend Community.

Officer Dieter's work has also been recognized over 200 times by multiple interests, including the St. Joseph County Prosecutor, the Mayor, the City Council, and his fellow citizens of South Bend. In the community, Officer Dieter worked tirelessly to keep our children safe, advocating for increased security in our schools and working to keep drugs off the streets.

I am honored to recognize Officer Dieter's accomplishments and exemplary commitment to community during his service in the police department. On behalf of Indiana's Second District, I am proud to recognize Officer Derek Dieter for his 39 years of protecting the people of South Bend, and I wish him a very happy retirement.

IN HONOR OF DOMINIC JARVIS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary work of Dominic Jarvis, an Australian student who has done excellent work in my office through the well established Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. Dominic came to us as an Environmental Studies student from Griffith University in Queensland, Australia. A self proclaimed "pragmatic advocate in social equity and justice, environmental conservation, peace and democracy" he has been a fantastic attribute to our office here and has worked hard on the issues most important to the constituents of the Central Coast. Dominic's undeniable passion for green policy and environmentally friendly politics has been a pleasure to witness in the workplace.

We have had the opportunity to host students through this program for many years and Dominic has done well to uphold the high caliber of work that we have come to expect from these international students. The Uni-

Capitol Internship Program has done an outstanding job in providing an opportunity for political and cultural immersion for over 140 students in its 15 years of garnering cross-cultural connections and I am very proud to have been a participant in this fantastic exchange both this year and in the past. I would like to recognize the importance of these programs in creating stronger multi-cultural ties and better relationships between nations at all levels.

Mr. Speaker, Dominic has been an outstanding ambassador of Australian culture and academic prowess. He is a pleasure to have in the office and executes his duties in such a cheerful and effective manner that I am sure his absence will be stark when he returns to Australia to complete his academic pursuits. I thank him once again for the time he has spent working in our office and the mark he has left on my staff, my district, and myself.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FAL-
MOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce upon its one-hundredth anniversary.

The Chamber of Commerce plays an essential role in the Falmouth community, connecting local businesses and offering visitors an important perspective on much of what this beautiful Cape Cod town has to offer. Founded in 1914, the Chamber of Commerce has grown to represent many small businesses that form the backbone of Falmouth's thriving local economy. From museums and banks to churches, charities, and seaside attractions, the Chamber represents a diverse array of the organizations that help to give this community its unique character. Every day, these businesses provide vital services to the area's year-round residents and to its countless visitors. The one hundred years of hard work by the Chamber of Commerce have been essential in developing the town's vitality, a characteristic that draws so many to Falmouth every year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce, its leaders, and the businesses and organizations it represents for their years of service to the town of Falmouth. I am certain that we will see many more great things from the Chamber in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
DEDICATED SERVICE OF COLO-
NEL FRANK W. "BILL" MANN,
JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Colonel Frank W. "Bill" Mann, Jr., who passed away on Wednesday, February 19, 2014. Colonel Mann was a true American patriot, who served our Nation in three wars, and a committed community leader. All of Northwest Florida mourns his loss.

Colonel Mann was born in Bayonne, New Jersey, on May 2, 1920, and was raised in Wyoming. After graduating from Cheyenne High School, Colonel Mann joined the Wyoming National Guard, where he served in the state's cavalry before attending the University of Wyoming. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in geology and then joined the Army Air Corps.

Colonel Mann began his long and decorated career as a military aviator. During World War II, he flew numerous aircraft, including the B-24, T-13, and AT-9. He flew missions in support of the Crossroads Project nuclear tests conducted on Bikini Atoll. Colonel Mann continued his distinguished military service in the Korean War, flying numerous B-29 bombing missions and serving as the Chief of Combat Operations for the 19th Bombardment Group based at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa. Over the course of the war, the 19th Bombardment Group had flown 645 missions, 5,950 sorties, and dropped more than 52,000 tons of bombs on enemy targets, and they were awarded a Presidential Unit Citation. He continued his aviation career during Vietnam, when he flew for the inspector general.

In addition to his excellence as an aviator, Colonel Mann served in a number of important command and leadership positions during his Air Force career, including Commander of the 705th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, Director of Flight Operations at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Commander of an Air Defense Command Radar Station at Mt. Laguna, California. During his distinguished 37-year career, Colonel Mann also earned many awards including the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and the Air Force and Army Commendation Medals.

After retiring from the Air Force in 1973, Colonel Mann and his family settled in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. As a member of the Northwest Florida community, Colonel Mann brought his experience and leadership to bear as a leader in civic society. Colonel Mann was a co-founder of the local Lions Club and a volunteer at the Chamber of Commerce. He also worked to help advocate for the military as a member of the Board of Directors and President of the Fort Walton Beach Military Officers Association of America. In addition, Colonel

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mann was a longtime member of the Order of Daedalians, where he worked to enroll high school youth in ROTC programs, and sponsored an annual scholarship for ROTC students. He was also served as past Flight Captain of Shangri-La Flight and was an avid and passionate member of this aviation group.

To some, Colonel Mann will be remembered as a patriot and decorated aviator; to others, he will be remembered as a civic leader and tireless advocate for members of our Armed Forces; to his family and friends he will always be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and service of Colonel Bill Mann. My wife Vicki and I send our prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Marge; daughters, Cindy and Karen; grandchildren, Shannon, John, and William; and the entire Mann family.

IN HONOR OF MARILYN HUMMEL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Marilyn Hummel who passed away peacefully in accompaniment of her family on Dec. 31, 2013. Marilyn was an old friend and a champion for environmental and social justice issues.

Marilyn was strong and unwavering in her beliefs and worked tirelessly to generously give back to her community. Her services are almost too extensive to list. She served as President of the League of Women Voters of Santa Cruz County; officer in the Rural Bonny Doon Association; office manager and Executive Committee member of the Santa Cruz Group of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club. She was a member of the Santa Cruz County Planning Commission; and member and Chair of the Board of Commissioners of the Santa Cruz County Housing Authority. She was a joyous presence wherever she worked and touched the lives of all those in her wake.

One of Marilyn's crowning achievements was saving an isolated and fragile outcropping of the Santa Cruz Hills along with their rare and endangered species of animals.

She is survived by her husband Don and their four children: Nancy, Bill, Tom, and Chris. My heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to this family.

Mr. Speaker, Marilyn's lifetime of community service stemmed from a place of love and compassion and her vibrant energy will truly be missed.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA HURLEY
AS THE 2014 OKALOOSA COUNTY,
FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE
YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Victoria Hurley as the 2014 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year.

I am proud to recognize her accomplishments as an outstanding educator and the instrumental role she has played in the lives of her students.

Ms. Hurley earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Troy University. A product of the Okaloosa County, Florida school system, Ms. Hurley continues to give back to her community. Ms. Hurley has educated students at Northwood Elementary and Walker Elementary, both located in Crestview, Florida, and has served as a literacy coach. She currently teaches Intensive Reading at her alma mater, Baker School in Baker, Florida. Ms. Hurley is certified in Next Generation Content Area Reading—Professional Development (NGCAR-PD) and K-12 Reading Endorsement. She gives her colleagues and the teachers who encouraged, challenged and mentored her credit for her successful career, but it is mainly because of her passion and commitment to excellence that Ms. Hurley inspires her students to maintain a fervent interest in reading and succeed.

For over fifteen dedicated years, Ms. Hurley has taught a variety of classes with students ranging from the third to tenth grades and has participated in community and statewide projects. Among her accolades are Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year and the Disney Environmental Regional award. Famed Librarian John Cotton Dana once said, "Who dares to teach must never cease to learn." Ms. Hurley truly believes that to be an effective teacher is to be a lifelong learner, and in her spare time, she ensures that she never becomes complacent in her own professional development. Always seeking improvement, Ms. Hurley has instructed 216 hours of professional development and has earned a supplementary 438 hours of in-service credit. In addition to her teaching schedule and time spent on professional development, her service to Okaloosa County is demonstrated by her presence on many school committees and assistance in writing grants.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Hurley as the 2014 Okaloosa County Teacher of the Year. Teachers like Ms. Hurley strive to lead their students down a path of personal and academic success, and Okaloosa County is fortunate to have her as part of its community. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Victoria Hurley, and we wish her all the best.

PATRICIA CLARK BOSTON AIR
ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the rule for the debt ceiling increase.

You may recall that two years ago the Nation's credit rating was downgraded for the first time ever because of politicized negotiations and the initial failure to reach an agreement—and now we risk that and more because an odd lot of members in this body and one, perhaps two in our bicameral twin, wish on the American people out of some misguided principle.

Refusing to raise the debt ceiling poses a cataclysmic danger to the stability of our markets and the economic security of our middle class and complete devastation for the poor.

I agree with President Obama that the full faith and credit of the United States is non-negotiable. The United States has been the worldwide standard bearer for many years and many other nations have been comfortable holding our paper but now our preeminent financial status is in jeopardy.

As former Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke stated last year: "A government shutdown, and perhaps even more so a failure to raise the debt limit, could have very serious consequences for the financial markets and for the economy . . ."

The Federal Government's statutory debt limit currently stands at a sum near \$16.699 trillion; and it needs to be increased.

I ask what we tell the people of China and Japan, who each own over one trillion in U.S. treasury securities. Or Singapore which owns \$80 billion.

We have enjoyed the status for many years now of hearing the phrase: "the flight to Treasuries," from financiers and investment analysts from around the world. This is something we should not and cannot take for granted.

And I ask what about the Seniors and Baby Boomers who literally count on the Social Security Trust Fund for their retirement—because while our international image and reputation are incredibly important, Mr. Speaker, the largest single holder of Treasury Securities is the Trust Fund.

The American people are not just owed government bonds—this Congress—and you—owe them peace of mind let us vote on the debt limit—post haste.

Here are some of those consequences if we do not raise the debt ceiling and pay our nation's bills:

A debt limit increase simply allows Treasury to pay the bills for spending Congress has already approved and does not add one cent to the debt.

House Democrats agree with President Obama that the full faith and credit of the United States is non-negotiable.

HIGHER MORTGAGE COSTS

If a default were to increase mortgage interest rate spreads by as much as they did when Republicans threatened default in 2011—0.7 percentage points—the average homebuyer will pay an extra \$100 a month. [Treasury Department]

This would cost 582,829 Texas residents took out a home mortgage or refinanced their existing mortgage last year \$36,000 over the life of a typical 30 year home loan.

LOST RETIREMENT SAVINGS

American workers retirement accounts—pension funds, 401(k) plans, and Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)—are at risk with a government default as much of them are invested in the stock market.

Private pension balances were 26 percent lower than they would have been if House Republicans had not threatened to default in July 2011. [The American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries]

If a default caused retirement assets to shrink that much again, it will drop the average American's 401(k) by \$15,000 and the average IRA by almost \$23,000.

And the cost would be worse for workers' nearing retirement—dropping an average

near-retirement worker's 401(k) more than \$37,000.

A Republican debt default would put at risk the retirement plans of 4,473,000 Texans.

SENIORS MAY NOT GET THEIR MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS

Fifty-eight million Americans, including seniors, widows, disabled workers and children, rely on Social Security to make ends meet every month.

If Republicans force default, more than 10 million Americans will not get their Social Security on October 23. On November 1, Social Security is scheduled to pay another 26 million Americans.

A Republican debt default would hurt 3,657,907 residents in Texas who rely on their earned Social Security benefits.

DISABLED VETERANS MAY NOT RECEIVE THEIR PENSIONS

Nearly 4 million disabled veterans receive monthly payments in recognition of their service and their sacrifice.

If Republicans force default, they will not receive their benefits on November 1:

299,877 Texas veterans receive disability compensation.

24,984 very poor and disabled veterans in Texas receive a pension to live on.

STUDENT LOANS WILL COST SIGNIFICANTLY MORE

Even a brief default might increase the cost of college.

For a freshman who starts school in 2014 and takes out the maximum annual student loan, their student loan costs are estimated to jump by about \$1,000, increasing loan payments by m percent. [The Institute for College Advancement and Success (TICAS)]

A longer default could increase payments by \$2,000 for the 531,327 Texas students who rely on loans to go to college.

DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS MAY NOT GET PAID FOR TAKING CARE OF AMERICANS WITH MEDICARE

More than a million doctors and hospitals that take care of Medicare beneficiaries have submitted bills for services they already provided. If Republicans force a default and Treasury is unable to pay them, they may not be able to continue caring for the 3,187,332 disabled workers and seniors in Texas.

Higher interest rates for mortgages, auto loans, student loans, and credit cards. Higher interest rates and less access to business loans needed to finance payrolls, build inventories, or invest in equipment & construction.

Families' retirement savings in 401(k)s dropping as the stock market plummets.

3.4 million veterans not receiving disability benefits.

10 million Americans not receiving their Social Security check on time in just the first week.

Drug reimbursements under Medicare stopping, and doctors and hospitals not getting paid.

Mr. Speaker, let's get to work together on behalf of the American people and pass a clean CR an raise the debt limit—now! The people expect nothing less, and time is of-the-essence.

HONORING DR. NEHEMIAH DAVIS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Nehemiah Davis on his fiftieth anniversary

as pastor of the historic Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. The church is in my hometown of Fort Worth, Texas and I am proud to represent this community in Congress. While this year marks Dr. Davis' fiftieth year as pastor of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, I would also like to congratulate him for his installation as President of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America.

Pastor Davis is a native Texan, born in Centerville, and received his Bachelors of Arts degree from Mary Allen College in Crockett, Texas. He also received three degrees from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas including a Bachelor of Divinity, a Master of Divinity, and a Master of Religious Education. He is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Guadalupe Baptist Theological Seminary.

As a regional and civic leader, Dr. Nehemiah Davis served for as a Trustee on the Board of the Fort Worth Independent School District, held various local and national leadership positions within the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) including serving as President of the Fort Worth chapter for over 25 years, and has held a wide array of positions within the Pastor's Conference and the Minister's Conference of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America. He currently serves as Dean of the Congress of the North Texas District Association and a teacher in the Baptist Ministers' Union of Fort Worth/ Tarrant County and Vicinity.

Pastor Davis' dedication to the church and to his community is exceeded only by his devotion to his wife Mrs. Dorothy Nell Cole and his two daughters, Carol Michelle Davis Jackson and Nina Caron Davis, who have given Dr. Davis two grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Davis has lived a life of service to people of faith and his community. I ask my distinguished colleagues of the 113th Congress to join me in honoring Pastor Davis on his fiftieth Anniversary as Pastor of Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church as well as an exemplary life of service.

DR. DAVID WELCH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and to honor the life of an extraordinary leader of the Tampa Bay community, Dr. David Welch. His remarkable career in public service and his many contributions to our community stand as a testament to his tremendous character.

Dr. Welch was born in St. Petersburg, Florida. As a young man, Dr. Welch served his country in the U.S. Army Airborne during the Korean War. After the war, Dr. Welch graduated from Florida A&M University and later obtained a doctorate in education from Nova University. Teaching was a lifelong passion for Mr. Welch, who inspired countless young minds during his time as a teacher at Gibbs Junior College and later on at St. Petersburg Vocational-Technical Institute.

Once Dr. Welch began his career, he quickly emerged as a business and community

leader. He founded Welch Tax Services and Accounting which assisted numerous local entrepreneurs and helped foster a thriving business environment in downtown St. Petersburg. As Director of Fiscal Affairs at St. Petersburg Vocation-Technical Institute, he used his adept diplomatic skills to resolve the 116-day sanitation workers' strike of 1968. He would continue to employ his ability to bring people together as the co-chair of the biracial Community Alliance, an organization dedicated to relieving racial tensions in the area.

In 1981, Dr. Welch became the second African American to serve on the St. Petersburg City Council. As a three-term council member, Dr. Welch championed development projects, and was one of the driving forces behind what are today some of St. Petersburg's most prominent landmarks. His efforts were instrumental in the development of Tropicana Field, the Pier, and the Bayfront Center. Dr. Welch was also a strong supporter of municipal interest-free loans for housing which led to major renovations in St. Petersburg. His outgoing nature and diplomatic manner earned him respect and results throughout his tenure as a council member.

While working diligently as a public servant, Dr. Welch continued to remain active in education and supporting local businesses through his office. Dr. Welch was always eager to mentor aspiring leaders and took an active interest in the youth of the community.

On September 16, 2013, Dr. Welch passed away at the age of 85. His legacy of service and leadership are an inspiration for all people throughout this great nation. His commitment to education, economic development, and equality will be forever remembered and appreciated. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Dr. David Welch for his lifelong service to the State of Florida.

IN TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT WARNER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Robert Warner for his service to the people of Connecticut and our nation. A long term resident of Vernon, Connecticut, Robert has dedicated his life to making a difference in his community, both at the local level and in service to our country.

Having known Robert personally for many years as a fellow Vernon resident, one of his greatest attributes is the generosity with which he gives his time. As a 14-year volunteer for the Meals on Wheels service, a respected coach for girls softball, the founder of the Vernon Toastmasters Club and a deacon and active member of the Vernon First Congregational Church, Robert has always been there for those in need.

Bob also wore the uniform of our nation as a Marine during World War II. Bob saw some of the conflict's heaviest combat in the Battle of Iwo Jima and the Battle of Guam. As so many others from "The Greatest Generation," Bob has been modest about his military service—focusing instead on his fellow Marines who did not return. His quiet, strong patriotism is the ultimate manifestation of the Marine Corps motto—Semper Fidelis.

Another great attribute of Robert is the long standing commitment he holds to improving his local community. As a Republican Town Committee member, Robert has advocated for improvements to the town of Rockville and Vernon schools. His strong work ethic and willingness to work together is testament to the bipartisan respect Robert won during his time on the Town Council.

Passing his passion for people and civic duty onto the next generation, Robert's son, the Hon. MARK WARNER, who is a graduate of Rockville High School Connecticut, is today the current U.S. Senator for Virginia and was the State's 69th Governor. MARK's outstanding record as governor followed his dad's pragmatic, results-oriented approach.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, Bob Warner is devoted to his family in a way that is an example to us all. He was married to his late wife Margery for decades, and cared for her with help from his son Mark and daughter Lisa for many years. I had the privilege to get a glimpse of Bob's devotion and strength during this difficult time, and he never wavered in his care for his beloved Margery.

Congratulations to the Vernon Republican Town Committee for taking the time to honor Bob and put the spot light of a great American.

Robert Warner is a credit to his community and his country, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the lifetime dedication of Mr. Warner.

RECOGNIZING PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO RETIRE

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the City of Port Saint Lucie, Florida for earning the rank as one of the 25 best places to retire in the United States.

For the third time since October, Forbes.com has listed Port Saint Lucie as one of the top places to live or do business, and I am delighted to recognize the recent Forbes.com list that names Port Saint Lucie as one of the 25 best places to retire in 2014.

Forbes cites excellent climate and air quality, lower cost of living, median home price, and low crime rate as their key criteria for the ranking. Just months ago, Forbes selected Port Saint Lucie as one of the best places in the country for business and careers based on education data, job growth, and the lower cost of doing business.

In addition to Forbes, last September, Movoto.com, a national online real estate broker, claimed Port Saint Lucie as number one on their list of the 10 best places to live in Florida based again on the city's low crime rate, cost of living, and housing among other factors.

Port Saint Lucie commands national attention for its incentives for families, entrepreneurs, and international business leaders alike and a perfect balance of warm yet temperate year-round weather. As a major city on the Sunshine State's Treasure Coast in Florida's Eighteenth Congressional district, I am

honored to represent Port Saint Lucie in the United States House of Representatives.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION RE- QUIREMENTS FOR AIRMEN AND AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS RE- LATING TO SLEEP DISORDERS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3578, a bill to ensure new and revised requirements for screening testing or treatment of airman or air traffic controller sleep disorders.

As the former chair of the House Homeland Security Committee Subcommittee on Transportation Security I am in strong support of this bill. This bill is a commonsense measure to address sleep disorder conditions that airman and air traffic controllers may be experiencing.

Under the bill the Secretary of Transportation can follow consistent acceptable medical standards and practices, to implement or enforce actions that provide for the screening, testing, or treatment; including consideration of all possible treatment alternatives for sleep disorders.

Sleep disorders is a serious matter that requires Congressional action to save lives and improve medical knowledge and best practices to assist those who suffer from a wide range of conditions.

There are 40 million people, or about 5 percent of the population, in the United States who suffer from chronic sleep disorders. It is estimated that sleep disorders cost U.S. employers about \$18 billion in productivity due to sleep loss issues.

Further it is estimated that about 62 percent of all adults in the United States experience sleep problems a few nights each week.

During any year, about 30 percent of all adults suffer from insomnia. In addition, only 29 percent of adults report getting the required amount of sleep each night.

At least 37.9 percent of adults report unintentionally falling to sleep during the day once in the past month. The annual number of fatal car crashes associated with falling asleep at the wheel is 1,550. The number of non-fatal crashes associated with falling asleep is 40,000.

Sleep disorders can occur due to medical conditions such as excessive drowsiness, fibromyalgia or narcolepsy and low thyroid function.

Drowsiness in the context of sleep disorders is more serious than when the average person feels drowsy or sleepy during the day. We can usually deal with that feeling by walking around, consuming a hot beverage or distracting themselves with other mentally stimulating activity.

The excessive drowsiness experienced as a sleep disorder is a feeling of abnormally needing to sleepy during the day. People experiencing excessive drowsiness may fall asleep in inappropriate situations or at inappropriate times.

Fibromyalgia is a common syndrome that can lead to sleep disorders. Fibromyalgia is a

syndrome in which a person has long-term, body-wide pain and tenderness in the joints, muscles, tendons, and other soft tissues. Fibromyalgia has also been linked to fatigue, sleep problems, headaches, depression, and anxiety.

Narcolepsy is more widely known as a nervous system disorder that can cause a sufferer to fall into an uncontrolled sleep nearly instantaneously. The exact cause of narcolepsy is unknown.

In some patients, narcolepsy is linked to reduced amounts of a protein called hypocretin, which is made in the brain. The reason why narcolepsy can lead to less production of this protein is unknown.

Researchers believe that low levels of a protein called hypocretin may be an underlying cause of narcolepsy—a disorder that makes people fall asleep during the day. Pharmaceutical companies are now looking for drugs that will replenish the lost hypocretin.

Emmanuel Mignot, of Stanford University Medical School, California, and his colleagues identified that low levels of hypocretin in patients with narcolepsy, their study appear in the September issue of Nature Medicine.

There is no cure for narcolepsy and symptoms include an uncontrollable desire to sleep during in the day, sudden loss of muscle tone, and paralysis. Narcolepsy is diagnosable as early as aged 15 to 25, and those affected by the disorder must find ways to cope with illness by changing their work and eating habits to achieve a level of normal behavior.

There is far too little research that answers the hard questions about sleep disorders which impact airman and air traffic controllers as well as millions of people in the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 3578.

DR. CAROLYN COLLINS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and to recognize a remarkable leader of the Tampa Bay community, Dr. Carolyn Collins. Her work as a public healthcare advocate, champion of education, and a broadcaster stand as a powerful testament to a lifetime of public service.

After graduating from Howard W. Blake High School in the Tampa Bay area in 1965, Dr. Collins earned a degree in Foods, Nutrition, and Institutional Management from Florida A&M University in 1973. She also earned a Masters of Public Administration degree in Health Services Management and Administration from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California. Having attained these considerable academic qualifications, Dr. Collins launched a long and successful career.

Dr. Collins has been extremely active in advocacy efforts on behalf of the African American community in the Tampa Bay area. Her involvement in the Hillsborough County chapter of the NAACP stretches back to 1973. She currently serves as the Chapter President. As a Registered and Licensed Clinical Nutrition Specialist, Dr. Collins was a strong advocate for improving public health in the Tampa community. She served as a Clinical Nutrition Specialist for over 34 years at Tampa General

Hospital. In addition to her professional work, she served as chair of the Employment Advisory Committee, serving the interests of over 4,000 employees at Tampa General Hospital.

Dr. Collins has also been an active voice in our community. From 1986 to 1992, she hosted her own television show, "Black Contact," broadcast on the CBS-affiliated WTVT Channel 13. She received the prestigious Creative Excellence in Business Advertising Award for her show.

Dr. Collins has been a strong supporter of improving public education. Since the 1970s, she has been actively involved in the Hillsborough County Head Start Program in a variety of different capacities. She has served as the Parent President in the past and also represented the program as the chair of the Hillsborough County Community Action Agency Board of Directors. Inspired by the powerful effect of her own academic career, Dr. Collins has been active in all levels of the Florida A&M University alumni association for over 35

years. For 7 of those years, she served as Vice President of the National Alumni Association, and afterwards became the president of the association.

Dr. Collins has many honors to her credit, not only in her professional career but also for her outstanding community involvement. Her example is truly an inspiration to all Americans. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Dr. Carolyn Collins for her many years of selfless public service.